

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LA PAZ 02044 182057Z

ACTION AID-31

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FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4529

UNCLAS LA PAZ 2044

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB BL

SUBJ: AIFLD PROGRAM 77-78

REF: STATE 27011

1. FOLLOWING COMMENTS ARE KEYED TO PARAGRAPH 4 REFTEL:

AIFLD/B COURSES HAVE ALMOST 40 PERCENT PARTICIPATION BY WOMEN. (GOB MINISTRY OF LABOR ESTIMATES PUT WOMEN PARTICIPATION IN THE WORK FORCE AT 34 PERCENT.) AIFLD/B HAS SUBMITTED PILOT PROGRAM PROJECT WHICH WILL BE RUN BY WOMEN FROM THE CONFEDERATION OF RURAL TEACHERS AND THE CAMPESINO UNION OF KORPA. AIFLD/B RECOGNIZES THE PREPONDERANT GOVERNMENT ROLE IN THE CAMPESINO FEDERATION. HOWEVER, THERE IS AMPLE OPPORTUNITY FOR WORK WITH LOCAL UNIONS IN SOCIAL SERVICES AND COOPERATIVES. WITHIN LIMITS OF ITS BUDGET AND POLITICAL SITUATION, AIFLD/B IS MAINTAINING CONTACTS WITH YOUNGER CAMPESINO LEADERS AND HELPING WITH SOCIAL SERVICES, COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS, AND CONFERENCES ON SPECIAL PROBLEMS OF THE POOR. AN ASSET TO WORK IN THIS FIELD IS THE AUD'S PROGRAM WHICH WILL PROVIDE TWO ACTIVISTAS (BOLIVIANS) FOR WORK WITH CAMPESINO UNIONS. ADMINISTRATIVE PROGRAM COSTS - IN THE PROPOSED \$180,000 BUDGET ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS AMOUNT TO APPROXIMATELY 51 PERCENT. THIS DIVISION ATTRIBUTES THE SALARY OF THE COUNTRY PROGRAM DIRECTOR TO ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS. SINCE THE ALEXANDER/HAMMOND REPORT ENDORSES A US LABOR REPRESENTATIVE OR LABOR PRESENCE IN LATIN AMERICA IT SEEMS UNREASONABLE TO CONSIDER SALARY AND QUARTERS ALLOWANCE FOR

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PAGE 02 LA PAZ 02044 182057Z

THE US LABOR REPRESENTATIVE AS SEPARATE FROM PROGRAM COSTS. ALSO OFFICE SPACE FOR AIFLD/B COSTS \$7,800 PER YEAR. AT LEAST \$4,000 OF THIS COST DERIVES FROM THE LARGE CLASSROOM AREA WHICH AIFLD/B REQUIRES FOR ITS PROGRAM OF EDUCATION COURSES. FINALLY, THE ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS ARE LARGELY FIXED AND AIFLD/B COULD OPERATE A LARGER PROGRAM PARTICULARLY IN SOCIAL PROJECTS WITHOUT SIGNIFICANTLY RAISING ITS COSTS OF ADMINISTRATION. HOWEVER, IT CANNOT

LOWER ITS ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS SIGNIFICANTLY WITHOUT REDUCING THE NUMBERS OF EDUCATION COURSES IT IS NOW PROVIDING.

SELF-HELP - CONTINUES TO BE AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN AIFLD/B SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS. BY MINISTERIAL DECREE THE EMPLOYEES PAY SALARIES OF WORKERS IN AIFLD/B COURSES, UNIONS USUALLY PROVIDE CLASSROOMS IF REQUIRED (IN AREAS OUTSIDE LA PAZ) AND TRANSPORTATION COSTS ARE PAID BY THE UNIONS OR THE WORKERS THEMSELVES. MOST SOCIAL PROJECTS INVOLVE CONTRIBUTIONS IN LABOR OR MATERIALS OR BOTH. THE BOLIVIAN UNION RECORD ON LOAN REPAYMENTS HAS BEEN GOOD.

2. WITH REGARD TO SPECIAL PROVISIONS WE UNDERSTAND THAT AIFLD/B'S APPENDIX CONTAINS A CLAUSE REFERRING TO SUPPORT FOR NATIONAL CONGRESSES. CURRENTLY SUCH CONGRESSES ARE PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE CLAUSE IS THEREFORE IRRELEVANT AND SHOULD BE DROPPED. AIFLD IS READY TO DISCUSS THIS ISSUE IF A LABOR CODE AUTHORIZING CONGRESSES SHOULD BE PROMULGATED.

(PARA 6 REFTTEL.)

3. THERE IS NO REPEAT NO PROBLEM TO SUPERVISE AUD'S ACTIVISTS IN BOLIVIA. WE EXPECT CPD TO WORK CLOSELY WITH AUD'S AND TO SUPERVISE PROGRAM HERE. (PARA 7 REFTTEL.)

4. EVALUATION REQUESTED PARA 5 REFTTEL UNDERWAY AND WILL BE SUBMITTED BY END OF MONTH.
STEDMAN

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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